Emphasis or Strengthening the Technological base of Indian Industries.

2069. DR. ASHOK MITRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review the results of the various official schemes launched for strengthening the technological base of Indian industries ;

(b) the nature of measure under contemplation to persuade the private industrial sector to increase its involvement in research and development activities ; and

(c) whether a legal stipulation of allocating a minimum proportion of total turnover by each corporate unit is being considered as an essential component of such measure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) Review mechanisms to assess the results of the schemes launched for strengthening the technological base of Indian industries are already in built in the schemes.

(b) Government have evolved fiscal incentives and other support measures to encourage industry to increase its investment in research and development activity, the most recent one being a 125% weighted income tax deduction for sponsored research in approved national laboratories.

(c) The matter is being examined.

Agreement with Japan on Research Projects

2070. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI ; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with Japan to take up joint research projects in key areas ; and

(b) if so, the areas identified in this regard, so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) ; (a) Yes, Sir. An Agreement on cooperation in the field of Science and Technology between India and Japan was signed on November 29, 1985.

(b) The areas identified for cooperation under this agreement include :—

— Weather prediction and Monsoon Research

— Tissue Culture

— Research on Standards

— Recycling Tecnologies

— Biomass reserach and Utilisation

— Assessment technology for Air and Water pollution

— Materials Research

Polio Vaccine

2071. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred so far in re-producing the Polio Vaccine under the Indo-French Project and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(b) the target period for producing the Vaccine ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) The Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited (IVCOL) was incorporated under Joint Venture Company during March 1989 to manufacture viral vaccines with Franch assistance. It has been promoted by the Department of Biotechnology (Governmtnt of India), Indian Petrechemical Corporation Limited (IPCL)